



The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society's **EXCITER**

GET INVOLVED

- RARS General Membership meeting: First Tuesday of the month.
- The RARS net meets every night @ 8 p.m. on 146.640.
- The RARS Technical & Trader's net: Saturdays @ 8:30 p.m. or following the RARS net.
- RARS meets for a monthly dinner on the 2nd Tuesday of each month.

PUBLIC SERVICE

2013 Cary Apex Morrisville (CAM) Relay For Life: May 4

Tour de Cure 2013: May 18-19

Springfest 2013: May 25

Special Olympics North Carolina 2013: May 31-Jun 1

2013 MSfits Ice Cream Ride: June 15

To sign up or learn more, visit http://www.rars.org/public-service/ps_signup.php.

RARS General Meeting

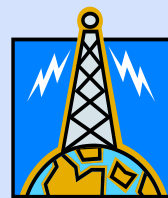
What: "Antenna Analyzers" by Bill Mars AK4BL

Date: Tuesday, May 7, 2013

Time: Refreshments, 7:00 p.m.; meeting, 7:30 p.m.

Where: First Alliance Church, 4400 Buffaloe Rd., Raleigh, NC

VE Test Session

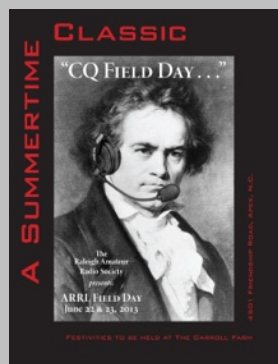


RARSfest 2013



Photo by Gary Pearce KN4AQ

See pages 4-6 for stories and pictures from RARSfest 2013.



Join Us for Field Day 2013!

June 22-23, 2013

4501 Friendship Road, Apex

For complete information, please visit <http://www.rars.org/fieldday.php>.

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The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society

The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society, Inc. (RARS) was founded in 1969 and continues to serve and support the amateur radio community in the greater Triangle area. In 1999, the society incorporated a new RARS and obtained 501(c)(3) non-profit tax status.

The objectives of the club are to promote worldwide friendship through amateur radio; to be of public service by providing radio communications in times of disaster, emergency, or civic needs; to educate members in radio technique, and to provide training classes to assist in obtaining amateur radio licenses.



Anyone interested in amateur radio is eligible to apply for membership. Dues for regular licensed amateurs are \$18 per year (from July 1 through June 30). Additional immediate family members pay \$5 each per year. Dues for licensed amateurs older than 59 or younger than 16 are \$12 per year. Dues for non-licensed associate members are \$9 per year. Applications for membership may be obtained from the treasurer or on the RARS website (www.rars.org).

Exciter

The *Exciter* is the official newsletter of the Raleigh Amateur Radio Society. It appears each month as a PDF on the RARS website at www.rars.org. Members receive email notification when the latest version is available. Please provide your email address to the Treasurer.

The *Exciter* welcomes articles, advertisements, and other contributions. To submit a piece to the newsletter, please contact the Editor. The Editor reserves the right to edit any and all pieces. The submission deadline for each month's *Exciter* is the third Friday of the preceding month. All submissions must be final. Drafts are not accepted.

The views expressed in the *Exciter* are those of the individual authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Editor or RARS.

Cathy Downs, KA3QPU, editor (editor@rars.org)

For Your Information

RARS General Meeting

Date: First Tuesday of each month
(except for January 2013)

Location: First Alliance Church
4400 Buffaloe Road
Raleigh, N.C.

Time: People begin arriving at 7 p.m.
The meeting officially begins at
7:30 p.m.

RARS Monthly Dinner

Join us on the second Tuesday of each month for the RARS dinner. It's open to everyone: RARS members, non-members, friends, and family. Feel free to bring your little ones! Dinner begins at 6:30 p.m.

Listen to the nightly RARS net and check www.rars.org for details on the next dinner's location.

RARS Repeaters in Raleigh

146.640 & 443.625 (88.5 PL)

Join us for the nightly RARS net at 8 p.m. on the 146.640 repeater. All hams holding a Technician class license or higher are invited to check in. We welcome both RARS and non-RARS members to the net.

VE Testing

The RARS VEs will accept walk-in testing at the February, May, August, and November RARS meetings; the RARSfest in April; the Cary Swapfest in July; the JARSfest in November; and following RARS license classes.

Please bring a photo ID, your current license, a copy of your current license, your \$14 exam fee, and any CSCEs you have for credit. Visit www.rars.org for

Message from the President

It's hard to believe that RARSfest occurred almost one month ago. Time flies! Before you know it, June will be here—along with NC Maker Faire 2013 and ARRL Field Day 2013.

Before those events are discussed, though, I want to take a minute and thank everyone for their participation in another very successful RARSfest. Set up on Friday, the RARSfest dinner, the attendance on Saturday, the flea market, the vendors' booths, the Youth Lounge, the RARS sales and project tables, VE testing sessions, the forums, the displays, the emcomm box contest—everything was great! And, it would not have happened that way without meticulous advance planning by the RARSfest committee and the coordinated teamwork of the individual volunteers. Again, thanks for your participation!

Did you know that RARS, along with the ARRL NC Section, OCRA, and the Triangle ATV club, are going to be sponsors at NC Maker Faire 2013? This year, NC Maker Faire will be held on Saturday, June 15, at the NC State Fairgrounds, from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

According to their website, "Maker Faire is the Greatest Show (and Tell) on Earth—a family-friendly showcase of invention, creativity and resourcefulness, and a celebration of the Maker movement. It's a place where people show what they are making and share what they are learning." (<http://makerfairenc.com/about-mfnc/>). The DIY spirit of amateur radio should fit in well at NC Maker Faire 2013 and that is why RARS is going to get involved. Hopefully, we will attract new participants to our great hobby. If you

See **President's Message**, continued on p. 10



Photo by Gary Pearce KN4AQ

Shopping for new equipment, looking for that needed part, catching up with old friends, meeting new ones, learning about new modes of communications...that's the fun of RARSfest.

Recollections: RARSfest 2013

By John Snellen, AI4RT

Only about 365 days until RARSfest 2014! But wait, let's slow down and enjoy memories of RARSfest 2013 first!

One of the really neat things about our hamfest is that it offers everyone in our club a chance to participate, to contribute to the club by volunteering your skills and talent or some of your time. We had more volunteers this year than ever before... and it showed.

For the first time in many years, we actually had adequate help for set-up on Friday and the great

dinner on Friday night. That dinner, by the way, is an event that is greatly appreciated by our dealers, vendors and guests—a highlight, in many ways, unique to RARSfest.

Saturday always starts early, like 5:30 a.m. And guess what, we actually had crews waiting to get into the building to get to work...setting up the RARS Table, the Project Table, the Emcomm Box Contest, the Youth Lounge preparations, getting the rooms ready for VE



Photo by Gary Pearce KN4AQ

Testing and forums, Ticket Sales, Pre-registration check-in, Information Table and prize drawing barrels, Security briefings, Signs and banners hung and placed, firing up the Talk-In station, the SOTA Station, placing the Emcomm Trailers for exhibit and getting the Stage set for the opening of RARSfest 2013.

This year our ticket sales increased, and we had more dealers and vendors than last year. The dealers and vendors were apparently pleased with sales generated during RARSfest this year, which is good because it's a great incentive for them to come back next year.



Photo by Gary Pearce KN4AQ

I hope that each of you had a great time, either while volunteering to help, and/or perusing the forums, booths, flea market and just plain *socializing*.

Thank you to everyone who volunteered to help and to everyone who came to RARSfest to support our club.

Have a great year and remember...RARSfest 2014, Saturday, April 19, 2014.

My First RARSfest Experience

by Brian Stearns, KK4OOS

The morning of March 30, I departed my house with a destination: RARSfest. I had in my mind an idea of what to expect. I've been to a few conventions and fairs in my time. There's always the swelling sea of people that wash in wave after wave. With numbers so great, you see people from all walks of life; all shapes, sizes, and flavors under one colossal roof. And where better to experience my first hamfest than at the North Carolina State Fair Grounds?

What made things different this time was the unfamiliar and quite unique world of amateur radio. After passing my Technician's test in February, I received a temporary slip as proof of passing. The paper contained the encouraging phrase, "Ham it up!" Being somewhat of a character, that sounded like an easy goal.

What I hadn't expected was the inexhaustible combinations of radio equipment or the diversity of media that can all be quite confusing. If I hadn't had an Elmer to guide me, I might as well have played "spin the bottle" to choose my gear. Fortunately, that wasn't the case. With a lot of know-how, my Elmer cut through nonsensical instructions to program my equipment.

I thought about all the equipment options as I wandered through RARSfest alone...hundreds of vendors, tens of thousands of items—vacuum tubes, wires, antennas, lights, tubing, software, literature, clothing, signs, printers, switches, brackets, chargers, batteries, tuners, and receivers. I felt like I had wandered into the Smithsonian Institution's exhibition on technologies past, present, and future!

I experienced a language barrier, too. Most participants knew each other not by name but by call sign—I'm still getting used to mine. I overheard conversations about feedback loops, gaining the output, and sidwinding the rotary pendulum McGuffin solenoid. Okay, I made up that last one.

My wife holds no interest (yet?!) in my new hobby, so I attended RARSfest alone. I suspect that the experience might have been different if I had had a friend or two to wonder around with, especially if they were long-time hams.

The best piece of advice I got as I walked the hamfest was: "As an amateur radio operator, you learn things by osmosis. You listen to others in nets, ragchews, or over a cup of coffee. You take it all in and at some point it starts to make sense." I'm looking forward to when I can join in on the conversation.

Prize and Contest Winners

Thanks to Greg Seamster, KE4PAX for providing this information!

10 a.m. Drawing:

William Schmidt N0FSD

11 a.m. Drawing:

Tom Chapman KC9FOZ

12 p.m. Drawing:

James (Geary) Morton

1 p.m. Drawing:

Kenneth Yaw KC2KXA

2 p.m. Drawing:

Fred Morris KZ4D

3 p.m. Drawing:

Joe Dlouhy

Photo by Greg Seamster KE4PAX



Fox Hunt winners

Bram (KK4CKL), Toby (KK4ATC), and Eva



Photo by Greg Seamster KE4PAX

EmComm Box

Robert Truitt, Jr. WA4A, right, with John Snellen AI4RT

Many thanks to Gary Pearce KN4AQ for sharing his pictures of RARSfest 2013.



*Something for everyone:
Commercial vendors,
flea market, project
tables...*



North Carolina QSO Party

Dear NCQP Participants,

Well here they are, the results of the 2013 running of the North Carolina QSO Party. It was an exciting run. Below this note you will find a great report written by Marc, W4MPS, our Awards Manager, and then the contest standings below that. Have a look and enjoy. Note that the all the soapbox comments are accessible by a link instead of being on the web page here as in the past. This was just a logistics thing. All the comments were received via the logs and various other sources. Marc compiled them very nicely with pictures and everything.

Paul, AA4XX, delivered the hand submitted paper logs to me today at the committee meeting for archiving and I took a moment to look them through. It's been a good number of years since I submitted a paper log to a contest and they brought back memories. I remembered what a tremendous amount of work it takes to submit a paper log compared to five minutes to submit an electronic log!

My hat is off to all the ones that submitted a paper log for the dedication to completing this task. It's not easy, thank you! A couple of them had footnotes saying they hoped to have electronic logging up and running next year.

Electronic logging is like a microwave oven, once you have it, you wonder what you ever did without it!

Some remarkable statistics stand out for the 2013 running. There were just over 25,000 QSOs completed in the allocated ten hours. And the answer to the question everyone asks about how many counties were activated, drum roll please...97. No QSOs from Anson, Richmond, and Transylvania. Gosh, that's close. www.rars.org

There were just over 25,000 QSOs completed in the allocated ten hours.

North Carolina QSO Party 2013 Final Results

Detailed scores are available on our website, www.ncqsoparty.org. Be sure to read our NCQP Soapbox which includes comments, stories and photos from our fantastic participants.

In-State

Single Operator/ Mixed

Top honors go to two of our state's top testers. Will AA4NC with a rousing 891 QSO's, finished first and also took the prize for Most NC Counties at 78. Last year's top

See **NCQP Results**, continued on p. 8

We're going to make a committed effort to get all 100 on the air in 2014! And let's not forget a very important statistic, 218 total logs submitted—25 percent more than the top amount in any previous year. Outstanding!

Another interesting aspect looking at all those QSOs is that it was divided very nearly 50-50 between CW and phone. This is a tribute to the additional SSB categories FARC introduced in 2010 to get more phone activity into our contest, which was heavily CW centric at the time. I'm

glad to see that. Please know that the Phone only categories are here to stay!

So it's on the results. I'd like to publicly thank the members of the committee for their tremendous, hard work getting this done. It would not be possible without them!

Respectfully submitted by
Marty Young, W4MY, NCQP Chairman

finisher, Nate N4YDU, was a clear second, with 650 Q's and 62 counties. It was a close battle for third, but it was Ben K4GHS who made the cut.

Single Operator/SSB

This was our largest in-state category with 37 logs in the mix. Congratulations to Donnie KG4ZOD. Donnie is a never-say-die competitor. He finished second in 2012 and 2011. Third time was the charm. With a margin of 60 QSO's and 13 counties, Cliff W4FT claims our Second Place award, with Lee K4LAL finishing third.

Single Operator / CW

When it comes to CW proficiency, it's tough to beat our returning winner Jack N4C (a/k/a W0UCE). .._ _... Jack. Second place was a real battle. But the award goes to Earl K4BSK, who takes the honors by the narrowest of margins, squeaking past Alan AA4FU, Bill KM1C and Howie N4AF. CW is far from dead. The ratio of Phone to CW QSO's was 50-50 this year, as has generally been the case in the past. Thanks to all for keeping this such an exciting category.

Single Operator / QRP

Great job by our low power contingent! Ashe County's favorite son Adam (a/k/a "The Power") WK4P gets the trophy with 202 QSO's, 56 Counties and 43,434 Points. It was another nip and tuck battle for the #2 slot between Mark WG8Y, Byron N4TIZ and NCQP's first ever winner Bill K4CIA. WG8Y in Rowan County gets the well-earned certificate.

Mobile / Mixed

Our road warriors always steal the show. Covering 19 counties with 821 QSO's, our winner is Jeff NY4N, who burned just a little more rubber than Connie K5CM and Bert N4CW. Connie and his XYL Pam (N5KW) made the trek from Oklahoma to participate. All our Mobiles are real troopers and we appreciate their efforts very much.

Mobile / SSB

Well, if you have two entrants, you're bound to get two winners. That's not meant to slight the efforts of top finisher Bill KJ4ADN who did a wonderful job racking up 435 QSO's, and who motored through 16 counties. Second goes to David KF4VXJ. A special mention and note of thanks goes to NCQP Chairman Marty W4MY and Bob W4TTX, who teamed up in Marty's "Taco Mobile". Although not eligible for an award, they did a commendable job handing out points. Don't miss Bob's Soapbox novelette; it's a great story.

Expedition / Mixed

The Expedition Class has been very popular since it was first introduced in 2012. No doubt however, your NCQP Committee will be analyzing the structure of the Expedition and Mobile categories as a result of now having two years' worth of experience. Asheville's John AD8J gets his name engraved this year, with Jimmy K2JB finishing a comfortable second. Well done boys!

Expedition / QRP

This is a new category for 2013. Again, two entries = two winners. Both did a yeoman's job. First time entrant and Summits On The Air (SOTA) veteran Tommy W4TZM gets the plaque, edging out QRP legend Randy KB4QQJ. Tommy hiked to the top of several mountains in western N.C. and combined SOTA activations with the NCQP. That's the way to do it Tommy! He and Randy both had 189 Q's in the log, but Tommy had a few more counties under his belt. The outdoor spirit of our Expedition and Mobile ops really adds to the quality of our event. FB es tn timer.

Club / Mixed

There was no "fear" in Cape Fear this year, as the team from K4MN, The Cape Fear ARS, managed to stay on top of the heap. NCQP sponsors for the past 10 years, Forsyth ARC – W4NC, just missed

See **NCQP Results**, continued on p. 9

the trophy, with the Alamance ARC contingent hot on their heels. Club participation is strongly encouraged, and is a fantastic way to get operators, especially those who may be a bit intimidated by contests, on the air to experience the thrill and excitement of events like NCQP.

Club / SSB

Operating from a rental cabin in Allegheny County, we'll be sending some nice hardware to the Tri-County ARC team- NC4AR, who repeated their 2012 victory. Place and Show go to the Charlotte ARC, W4CQ, and the WCARS club, W4MOE. A very respectable effort by all. However, next year we're thinking of hosting a special seminar: "The Joy of Computer Logging" in honor of our beloved paper loggers. Just kidding. We'll take 'em any way we can get 'em.

Most N.C. Multipliers

This turned out to be interesting, but not really, after you think about it. First Place with 78 counties goes to Will, AA4NC, our SO/In-State/Mixed winner. He was followed closely by NT2A, Gennady in New York with 74 counties, John K4BAI in Georgia with 72 and three stations with 71 each, which included Tom, KV8Q and Paul, W8TM in Ohio, and the K4MN team in Cumberland County. Committee member Dwayne, N4MIO is analyzing county results in detail and we will be posting that analysis to our website and Yahoo Groups site. At the time of writing, it appears that 98 of 100 counties were activated for this year's NCQP. We'll be discussing how to make that 100 of 100 in 2014.

Out of State

Single Operator / Mixed

This was the largest entry class in this year's NCQP with 66 logs submitted. To appreciate the competition, take a look at the detailed scores on our website. What a battle! But, at the end of the day, it was Gennady, NT2A from New York who triumphed with 186 QSO's in 74 counties and a final score of 37,226. Second honors go to Tom, www.rars.org

KV8Q in Ohio with 170 Q's in 71 counties and a score of 36,410. Third place finisher Dave, W5CW actually had the most QSO's in this category at 216, but at 62 counties came up just a tad short with a final score of 36,098. Needless to say, these logs were audited and double-checked, as were all the top finishers in every category. There were 4,458 QSO's in this category alone. We should also recognize the FB efforts of our DX competitors. Top score there was from Andreas, DL3GA. Many thanks to all our DX entries, which makes the NCQP even more exciting.

Single Operator / SSB

Forty logs were submitted in this category. QSO's from the three Out of State categories accounted for 25 percent of all QSO's and 56 percent of the total competitive logs submitted. I'd say county hunters were out in force. Numero Uno by a comfortable margin was Dick, N4ARO with 181 Q's, 63 counties and a score of 23,106. Second place goes to David, W9QL with Chester, K4CTL right behind in third.

Single Operator / QRP

What a hearty bunch this is! Eleven QRP logs submitted from 8 states/provinces. Maryland's own Curt, WB8YYY gets the trophy with 97 Q's in 54 counties and a score of 15,706. Very respectable indeed. Curt finished second last year. Well done from all those who care to send the very least.

Final Thoughts

The 2013 NCQP shattered our previous records with 25,060 QSO's vs. 14,783 in 2012 and 11,571 in 2011. That's a 70 percent increase year over year. Wow! Forty Meters was the workhorse band, accounting for 62 percent of all contacts made. As I mentioned earlier, it was 50-50 between Phone and CW. Take a look at the graphs and statistics on our website for further details.

March Traffic Stats

RARS Two Meter Traffic/Ragchew Net

Check-ins: 602
Traffic: 36/30
Minutes: 393
Sessions: 31

Special Interest Nets

Check-ins: 130
Minutes: 405
Sessions: 9

President's Message, from p. 3

would like to help us at our booth, please contact me via email at w4chx@arri.net.

Also, remember to order your official RARS Field Day 2013 T-shirt featuring another classic image from our creative Field Day Chair, Bob W4TTX. Orders can be placed until midnight on Sunday, May 12, via this link: <http://www.rars.org/t-shirts.php>. The money for the T-shirts will be collected when they are distributed, i.e., at the RARS General Membership meeting on June 4 and during the Field Day activities June 21 to 23.

73, Karl W4CHX

Events, Hamfests & Conventions

Upstate Hamfest | May 4
Location: Spartanburg, SC
Website: <http://brars.org>



Dayton Hamvention® | May 17-19
Location: Dayton, OH
Website: <http://www.hamvention.org>

Mid-Summer Swapfest | Jul. 20
Location: Cary, NC
Website: <http://www.qsl.net/n4nc/swapfest.html>

NCQP Results, from p. 9

What a great QSO party. Sincere thanks to all who participated and to the other members of our Committee who worked tirelessly to continue the tradition of making the North Carolina QSO Party one of the best in the country. Also, special thanks to our bonus stations, W4DW who handed out 1,081 QSO's, and, of course, the ever popular and much sought after NI4BK, operating from

www.rars.org

New RARS Members

Bill Ott	KI4BKF
Susan Aceti	KE4QKW
Mike Tindall	KK4QMA
John Chaney	KK4OOL
Carlos Gonzalez	KK4QEG

May Birthdays

Ken	KK4ETP	05/01
Nate	KK4PDM	05/02
Pete	N2BLY	05/03
Ron	KJ4DNS	05/04
John	KJ4JAS	05/04
Liz	KO4CK	05/05
Larry	KG4FIQ	05/05
Jeremy	KF7TMZ	05/06
Wayne	K6TWX	05/08
Hank	K4HM	05/08
Brian	KA9QJT	05/10
Nancy	KB1HIX	05/10
Bob	NC1X	05/11
Chuck	AE4CD	05/12
Joe	KK4KZQ	05/12
Ed	WA4PEN	05/13
Bob	KI4ZNM	05/15
Chris	KE4TMO	05/17
Cam	KU4VY	05/17
Frank	W4NPN	05/17
Larry	K1ZW	05/20
Bill	AK4BL	05/20
Bob	KB4RGC	05/21
Joe	K4UOO	05/24
Fred	NC4FB	05/26
Courtney	KI4HOS	05/27

the radio room of the Battleship USS North Carolina.

See y'all next year!

73, Marc, W4MPS, NCQP Awards Manager

Minutes

Board of Directors Meeting Raleigh Amateur Radio Society March 19, 2013

Present: Bob KI4YXM, Greg KE4PAX, Bob W4TTX, Karl W4CHX, Don WA4AVU, Marty W4MY, Ken WA4JJW, CJ NC4CJ, Chuck K4HF, Murray K4MHM, Hank K4HM, John AI4RT, Selene KG4RMT, Charlie WB4DCM

Guests: David KF4VXJ, Chuck W3WZN.

1. **Call to order (Karl W4CHX):** Karl W4CHX called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
2. **Approval of minutes (Karl W4CHX):** The minutes were approved as presented.
3. **Vice President's report (C.J. NC4CJ):** C.J. NC4CJ reported that meeting topics are in place through July.
4. **Treasurer's report (Greg KE4PAX):** RARS currently has 305 members. If any RARS member has questions regarding the budget, please contact Greg KE4PAX or Karl W4CHX for more information.
5. **Secretary's report (Bob KI4YXM):** No report
6. **Committee reports:**
 - a. **Public Service Director (John AI4RT):** A new event for Cystic Fibrosis in Angier, N.C., is scheduled for October. We are not going to participate in the Habitat for Humanity ride in Pittsboro, N.C., this year.
 - b. **Public Information Officer (Ken WA4JJW):** A brochure has been printed and will be available at RARSFest. Ken WA4JJW needs to be told who has plaques, trophies, and certificates, which have been presented to RARS over the years, so that images of them can be made. It was suggested that we get a digital frame to display RARS awards at RARSFest and General Membership meetings.
 - c. **Education Director (Murray K4MHM):** Murray K4MHM is planning to have an emphasis on youth in the next class. It was noted that the Boy Scouts program has a special ribbon for Scouts with an amateur radio license.
 - d. **Field Day Chair (Bob W4TTX):** RARS has been added to the Field Day locator. Bob W4TTX will try to come up with a joint exercise we can do with the Red Cross. T-shirts have been designed and will feature an individual's call sign on the back. The cost for each T-shirt is approximately \$21. There will be two "Port-o-Potties" at the Field Day site this year. David KF4VXJ is working on donations of ice, water and other fluids.
 - e. **FM Repeater Chair (Karl W4CHX):** All needed repeater equipment has been received and is being configured by Danny K4ITL. The next phases will include installation. It was reported that the bills for repeater repairs by Kenwood or Danny K4ITL have not been received.
 - f. **RARSFest Chair (John AI4RT):** We will have FAQ sheets for distribution in .pdf format. It is possible that a QRP station will be present at RARSfest, since the Summits on the Air (SOTA) awards program will have a booth.
 - g. **Exciter Chair (Cathy KA3QPU):** Please send articles. Cathy KA3QPU also expressed thanks to those who have sent articles.

- h. **Hospitality Chair (Charles WB4DCM):** Charles WB4DCM is tracking general meeting attendance, using an Excel spreadsheet. He is sending copies to Karl W4CHX.
- i. **Net Manager (Mary KG4OQA):** No report.
- j. **ARRL Liaison (Chuck K4HF):** Chuck K4HF reported that the ARRL is starting to publish digital editions of QST.
- k. **At-Large Director (Don WA4AVU):** No report.
- l. **W4DW/W4RNC Trustee (Jeff AC4ZO):** No report.
- m. **RARS VE Coordinators (Joe WA4GIR and Liz KO4CK):** No report.
- n. **RARS Webmaster (Hank K4HM):** Hank K4HM is working on the web pages for RARSFest. He is considering redesigning the web pages so that more of the available page-space can be used. Hank K4HM noted that the information on www.qrz.com for our club call signs (W4DW, W4RNC, N4RAL) should be updated. The job descriptions pages on the website were discussed.
- o. **North Carolina QSO Party (Marty W4MY):** Marty W4MY reported that 201 logs were submitted this year, which surpassed the all-time highs of previous years. Marty W4MY plans to have the awards available by April 27, 2013. He is considering trying to use the Voice of America (VOA) site for a bonus station next year. Results will be listed in the May 2013 issue of the Exciter.

7. **Old business:**

- a. **NC Maker Faire 2013 (Karl W4CHX):** NC Maker Faire 2013 is scheduled for June 15. The club's \$100 donation has been sent to the event's organizer. RARS and several other Triangle-area amateur radio clubs will be official sponsors of NC Maker Faire 2013.
- b. **Purchasing amateur radio books for NCSU Libraries (Karl W4CHX):** Karl W4CHX reported that action is pending on getting in contact with a collection manager at the NCSU Libraries.
- c. **RARS awards:** It was reported that the RARS awards will be presented at the April, 2013 General Membership meeting.

8. **New business:** Karl W4CHX commented upon several topics of interest to amateur radio operators.

9. **Any other business:** There was no other business.

10. **Board member's comments:**

- a. Chuck K4HF noted that RARSFest needs plenty of help from club members.
- b. David KF4VXJ stated that more qualified people are needed to help support the Red Cross.

11. **Adjournment (Karl W4CHX):** The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.



Minutes

General Membership Meeting Raleigh Amateur Radio Society April 2, 2013

1. **Call to order:** Karl W4CHX called the meeting to order at approximately 7:35 p.m. There were 63 individuals in attendance.
2. **Approval of minutes:** The Minutes of the RARS General Membership meeting on March 5, 2013 were approved as presented.
3. **Vice President's report (CJ NC4CJ):**
4. **Treasurer's report (Greg KE4PAX):** Greg KE4PAX reported that RARS has 316 members. If any RARS member has any questions, please contact Greg KE4PAX or Karl W4CHX for further information.
5. **Announcements (Karl W4CHX):**
 - a. **Congratulations on RARSfest:** Karl W4CHX congratulated the organizing committee and all volunteers for their efforts during RARSfest, which was held on March 30.
 - b. **Upcoming RARS events and hamfests:** Karl W4CHX reminded everyone to see the Exciter or the ARRL website for further information.
 - c. **After meeting gathering:** The after meeting gathering will be held at Applebee's, Six Forks and Wake Forest Roads (by the Costco).
6. **Reports from RARS Board members and others:**
 - a. Karl W4CHX reported that Jack Foster is making progress. Please keep him in your thoughts. Also send him a card.
 - b. Bob W4TTX Field day chair. Bob announced that tee shirts can be ordered on the RARS web site. Cost is \$21 for small thru XL Amount is due at pickup on Field Day. Bigger sizes will cost more. Bob also announced that we need operators for the 40 CW station.
7. **Any other business:** There was no other business brought before the membership.
8. **Drawing:** The winner of the drawing was Bob KI4YXM.
9. **Program:**
 - a. The first part of the program was to recognize accomplishments and contributions of RARS members. Those recognized were:
 - i. Virginia P. Enzor, NC4VA – For her extra effort in growing many new hams in RARS and in the Raleigh area; and, in appreciation as RARS Education Director, 2007 thru 2012. Her plaque was awarded during the March 2013 meeting.
 - ii. Ken McEwen, KI4OTO – In appreciation for serving as a RARS Director-at-Large, 2008 thru 2012.

- iii. Chuck DeCourt, W3WZN – In appreciation as the RARS Public Information Officer for 2012.
- iv. Kay McEwen – In appreciation for organizing the 2012 RARSfest Supper.
- v. Larry Carringer – In appreciation of his providing musical entertainment at the RARSfest Supper for many years.
- vi. Jeff Wittich, AC4ZO – In appreciation for organizing the 2012 RARSfest Wouff Hong Ceremony.
- vii. Steve Ferrarini, KJ4BX – In appreciation of his long time work as the RARS Liaison to the First Alliance Church.
- viii. Jack Foster, N6UYB – In appreciation of his assistance in the use of the Audio/Visual gear at First Alliance Church.
- ix. Cliff Broughton, W4FT – For his persistent efforts in designing and implementing the upfitting of the RARS Bayleaf Repeater building and site.
- x. Danny Hampton, K4ITL – In appreciation of his friendship, advice and technical expertise provided for the RARS Repeater Systems.
- xi. Daniel DeCourt, W3WDD – For his valuable assistance with installation of the RARS 145.13 Repeater System.
- xii. Jim and Beth Carroll, N4CAE & KF4QMR – For their generosity in making their home and farm available for the RARS Field Day for several years.
- xiii. Paul Mobus, KE4TMN - For handling RARS Field Day NTS Traffic for several years.
- xiv. Mellisa Meeks – In appreciation for her help as Red Cross Client Services Coordinator at the 2012 RARS Field Day.
- xv. Henry Heidtmann, W4DZO – For helping to transition the NCQP to the RARS NCQP Committee.
- xvi. Dwayne Ayers, N4MIO – In appreciation for being an At-Large Member of the 2013 NCQP Committee.
- xvii. Andy Peterson, AA9P – For his efforts in setting up the website for the new RARS NC QSO Party Event.
- xviii. Larry Wiandt, N4LEW – For his contribution to the RARS NET for several years.
- xix. Bob Chapman, NC1X – For his contribution to the RARS NET for several years.
- xx. Julie Royster, KT4JR – For her contribution to the RARS NET for several years.
- xxi. Larry Royster, K4MWE – For his contribution to the RARS NET for several years.

- b. The second part of the program was a panel discussion on the legal aspects of ham public service featuring John Snellen AI4RT, Dan Sears KD4AGQ, Bill Cole KG4CXY, and Atty. Tom Hansen.

10. **Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:10 p.m.

RARS Classifieds

RARS Members: [Post](#) a new 30 day listing or [Edit](#) your current listings at www.rars.org/classifieds.php. The items below were listed within the last 30 days.

Kenwood TS-850 transceiver

Posted April 28th, 2013 by: K4MHM

Contact: K4MHM@arrl.net

Kenwood TS-850 transceiver with: CW filters, mike, manual, power wire and box: \$700.00

Kenwood SP-520 speaker: \$30.00

Kenwood MC-50 desk mike (with cable): \$60.00

Murray, K4MHM

Raleigh, NC

mmmm0320@gmail.com

919-803-7973

OLD Computer **STUFF**

Posted April 4th, 2013 by: K4HM

Contact: hank@k4hm.net

Cables, adapters, CD drives, ribbon cables, old memory sticks, various mounting hardware. One box is all Apple parts.

Books, books, books. Several boxes including Dbase III, Access, Word Perfect, Lotus 123, etc. manuals from Sybex, Osbourne, McGraw Hill, Que, etc. Were expensive in their day - but

Over 500 3.5" floppy disks - includes several versions of DOS - like IBM DOS-7 in original box with books and disks. Many NEW.

NO OFFER WILL BE REFUSED

Anything left will be going to recycle center this week.

K4HM - Hank

919-818-7455

Bicycle Rack - \$15 or Swap

Posted April 3rd, 2013 by: K4HM

Contact: hank@k4hm.net

Has been used for many Public Service events.

Plugs into a receiver hitch and has hanger for 2 bicycles. Folds over to allow tailgate to be dropped down.

I traded my truck for a little Chevy HHR and can't use a receiver hitch mounted rack anymore. Would like to trade it for a strap-on type hitch for a hatchback - or will sell for \$15.

Email me, or call me at 919-818-7455.

73,

K4HM - Hank

Hardline

Posted April 1st, 2013 by: N1GMV

Contact: n1gmv@hotmail.com

I have about 50 Feet of very thick hardline if anyone has a legitimate need for it.

email: n1gmv@hotmail.com



LOCAL AMATEUR RADIO NETS

The **Apex Emergency Response Communications Net** meets weekly each Sunday at 9 p.m. on the 146.640 repeater. The purpose of the net is to assist ham radio operators in preparing to respond to emergencies, test their equipment, improve operating skills, pass traffic, and to provide those with a common interest an opportunity to meet. The Apex ERC Net provides amateur radio emergency communications for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints' disaster relief efforts. All stations are invited to participate in this net.

Please join us on the **Carolina 440 Net** every Monday night at 7:30 p.m. This ragchew net utilizes the Carolina 440 UHF Link Repeater System. Comprised of the Raleigh, Down East, and Coastal Wilmington link systems, there are currently 19 repeaters on the system, covering 21,168 square miles. For a list of these repeaters, please visit www.carolina440.net.

Please join us each Tuesday at 9:15 p.m. on the 146.880 repeater for the **Central Carolina SKYWARN** net. On each net there are announcements, check-ins by county, and often a program or training spot. Check us out at www.centralcarolinaskywarn.net.

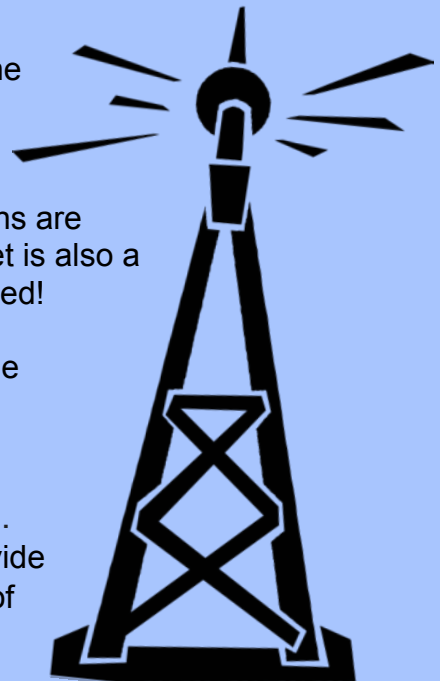
The **PCTN (Piedmont Costal Traffic Net)** meets daily at 9 p.m. on the 146.880 repeater. The purpose of the net is to handle/pass NTS formal messages. Amateur stations are encouraged to check in and participate. The backup repeater is the 147.105 (PL tone 82.5).

The **RARS Technical & Trader's Net** is held on Saturday evenings on the 146.640 repeater at 8:30 p.m.

Join us every evening at 8 p.m. on the 146.640 repeater for the **RARS Two-Meter Net**. You can give a ragchew, check in and out (this counts for our total numbers reported to the ARRL!), make announcements, and pass traffic. We also offer National Traffic System traffic training. All licensed stations are welcome to participate in the net as often as they can. This net is also a great way to learn about amateur radio if you are newly licensed!

The **VOIP Hurricane Net** is held Sundays at 00:00 UTC on the 146.775 repeater with a tone of 88.5 (IRLP node 4260). For information about activation details, go to www.voipwx.net.

The **Wake County ARES Net** meets Thursdays at 9:15 p.m. (after the PCTN TrafficNet) on the 146.88 repeater. We provide discussion and training for the implementation and provision of emergency communications for our served agencies, such as the American Red Cross and the local and state Emergency Operations Center. Please join us. For more information please visit <http://www.wakeares.org>.



Want to be a Published Writer?

Everyone has a favorite aspect of amateur radio. From contests to antenna building, there's something for everyone. Why not share your interests, expertise, and experience with RARS in the *Exciter*? We welcome member and non-member/affiliate submissions.

Both technical and non-technical articles are needed for the *Exciter*. You could write up a quick column on QSL cards or a longer how-to piece on setting up a new shack. And don't feel pressured to write a novel; articles of all sizes are appreciated!

To submit an article, simply email your piece to the Editor (editor@rars.org). Please also feel free to attach pictures to accompany your article. It is helpful if you add captions and identify the people in photographs, and have their permission to use their image.



RARS Classifieds

Want to add a new radio to your shack? Have an antenna for sale? Browse the RARS classifieds for new and used radio equipment at <http://rars.org/classifieds.php> or see p. 10 of this newsletter for current listings.

RARS members may post notices about equipment they are selling. Posts last for 30 days and are editable at any time.

Using our classifieds is a great way for buyers to search for available items and for sellers to reach a local, targeted audience.

The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society's

EXCITER

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